

Where are the lads who led the line  
On cinder track when Spring first twinkled;  
Those stars we knew of old long since,  
In childhood dreams they twinkled.

## FRENCH RING BOUTS ARE FULL OF ACTION

Boxers Are Weak in Defensive Work, But Willing Mixers

STYLE DIFFERS FROM OURS

Victor Kisses His Conquered Foe  
After Administering Severe  
Bating to Him in the Ring

By B. F. STEINEL

Real boxing bouts in France! Well, a majority of the fight bugs back home used to sit back and laugh quietly to themselves whenever they read about ring battles in France between real Frenchmen. I will admit that I was one of those sceptical fans before I landed over here. But I was agreeably surprised the other night when I attended one of the private shows of the National Sporting Club at the gymnasium up at Rue Daru.

During these strenuous war times public boxing shows are prohibited. It being figured, undoubtedly, that the boys up in the trenches would be envious of the stay-at-homes should they be allowed all the before-the-war pleasures. The National Sporting Club conducts weekly shows at its sumptuous quarters every Thursday night, and if you want to see some real fighting, that's the place to go. At the last exhibition there were five novice bouts, two professional prelims, and then the *pièce de resistance*. And for real action this show had most of the exhibitions at home backed off the boards. There was no stalling, and each bout was interesting and exciting.

Although the Frenchmen are really new at the sport, they have made wonderful progress. Of course you always imagined that when two Frenchmen entered the ring they went in it "à la Savate" style. But such is not the case. You see the real kind of boxing, or fighting, whatever you might wish to call it. The French boxers are about the most willing set of mitt-wielders that I have seen in action. They kept going all the time and are high-class boxers. It is at the defensive work that they are shy of the mark. Their footwork also is poor, and that probably is the main reason our shifty boxers from across the pond have been able to win a majority of their bouts here. But the fact that the Frenchmen are poor defensive fighters and lack footwork does not detract any from the battles fought here. As a matter of fact it makes the bouts more lively. The fighters kept going all the time, and it is one continual fight.

### Difference in the Sport Here

Now to point out a few differences between the game over here and at home. The shows here are attended about equally by men and women. At the National Sporting Club, where only members and their guests are permitted to attend, only small purses are offered to the fighters, as these are war times and the boxers do not expect as much, especially as no admission is charged. But the French promoters have solved this problem and know how to get results. Whenever two boxers start off poorly or even if the fight is a hot one, some liberal fan informs the announcer that he will donate, say, 20 francs, to the winner. This announcement is made public, and then the fighters proceed to try for the big stakes. In one or two bouts the other night over 500 francs in side money was offered, and you should have seen the boys go to it. This same method is used in almost all of the bouts, and this gives the spectators a real run for their money. As a matter of fact you see one bout after another, all brim full of action.

Although the rules over here permit the use of the pivot blow, the backhand punch, the loop-the-loop, kidney and other punches, which are barred in many parts of the States, still the French lads are a clean lot of boxers and you rarely see any dirty tactics employed. One of the big faults with many of the boxers here is too much open glove work. Many of the boxers failing to close their mitts before landing. They have some promising boxers over here now. You rarely see the same boys in action, however, at the shows, as the boxers engaged are those either here on their permission or in on a special permit.

### Judges Render All Verdicts

The referee over here is merely a figurehead. He breaks the boys and sees that they fight fairly, but the three judges on the outside decide the outcome of the bout. The judges sit at a table and decide the winner. The French language is without some of the prize bug expressions, and you hear the "time," "break," "you're out," etc., in English, but the counting is done in French, as are the announcements of the rounds. One excellent feature used here is the warning to the seconds ten seconds before the time is up, and they must then retire from the ring, leaving the two boxers free to continue the instant time is called.

But the most unique feature of the whole show is the kissing of the conquered foe by the victor. After giving his man a good whipping, the winner rushes over to his opponent and plants a kiss on each cheek. That would cause quite a ripple with the fans at home.

With the present friendly relations between the French and Americans I look for some great international matches at the conclusion of the war. Boxing is bound to receive a big boost during the war, and at its conclusion there should be many interesting conflicts. American boxers who participated in the war will certainly find a warm spot for them over here.

American boxers are to make their appearance at some of the future shows, and some interesting matches are bound to ensue. Eddie Nugent, the U. S. middleweight, is among the first to be employed. He is in the Naval Aviation Service here, and will be used shortly.

JACK JOHNSON HEARD FROM

Bob Scanlon, former American colored heavyweight boxer, who has been making his home here for some time, has cleaned up all the heavies and is without opponents just at present. Scanlon recently received word from Jack Johnson, who is located in Spain. Johnson is conducting a big café and restaurant in the Spanish city, and also takes part in bull fights occasionally.

## FOUND—A SPORTING EDITOR

Our recent call for a sporting editor to take charge of the sporting page has borne fruit. B. F. Steinel, with twenty years' experience as sporting editor on the Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin, the Sentinel, the Journal, the Free Press, and the Daily News, and on the Chicago Inter-Ocean, has volunteered to assume charge of the sporting page. He will write weekly articles of comment and give his views on sporting events. Mr. Steinel for eighteen years has been a promoter of ring bouts in Milwaukee, and is considered an authority in this sport.

Mr. Steinel is connected with the American Red Cross as an ambulance and camion driver. He formerly was with the American Field Service. He has been in France since last summer.

## STAR SHELLS

By SGT. STUART CARROLL, Q.M.C.  
THE SPORTSMAN

A sportsman is the one who plays  
On sunny and on rainy days;  
Who doesn't care  
If Jupiter nicks the water spout  
And turns the heavens inside out  
To give 'em air.

A sportsman smiles if something slips  
When he falls out or when he zips;  
He grins a bit,  
If, after lifting one from view,  
It soars, then gently drops into  
A fiddler's mitt.

A sportsman fights from first to last,  
And, when his game of life is past,  
He knows there waits  
A ticket of celestial hue,  
On which he gains admittance through  
The pearly gates.

It appears that Bolo Pasha took too long a lead and was caught napping, but then the Germans never were good coaches.

The splitter is declared *fini* by the magnates of the American Association. Simultaneously, the evasive of the tobacco chewing twirlers to the gold wife will become *de trop*.

And the home paper headlines thus:  
"Gertrude Hoffman to Buy a Circus."

O' Fourth Estate, lay off that stuff,  
And do not from our hob-nails jerk us;  
We know that sometimes Gertrude's rough,  
But never would she buy a circus.

On the other hand, ain't it a belavante note when, on the 19th of February, you get a package marked, "Don't open until Christmas?"

Eddie Plank also has joined the United Union of Contract Refusers and still asserts that the Yanks will have to hew in other forests for their pitching staff.

MESS SERGEANTS—MOST OF 'EM  
(Apologies to J. P. McEvoy, who doesn't cuss, but who knows all the words.)

I've studied these mess sergeants  
For nigh on months and more;  
I know their ways, their waggish ways,  
From A to Zingapore.  
Their cultured conversation  
When at you it is summed,  
Consists of five three-gerle words,  
And one is "Hebedamd."

You ask 'em for a handout,  
On bended knee you gaze  
Before their throne within the zone  
Of slim from better days;  
They slip you one expression,  
But full of pep it's jammed:  
The words you get are with you yet,  
And one is "Hebedamd."

You say the old man told you  
That you should eat right now,  
Instead of when the other men  
Begin to chuck the chow;  
The mess boss looks you over,  
Then with a fork you're rammed:  
You wait until he rolls a pill,  
And he says "Hebedamd."

I wonder who'll explain it,  
Why mess non-coms should cuss  
On every day from June to May—  
Oh, why is thisy thus?  
I never heard men say them  
"Ere I was Uncle Sammed—  
These Hebedamd and Ubedamd  
And Hebedamd and Therbedamd and also Ubedamd."

MARTY McCUE WANTS BOXING

Martin McCue, former well known boxer, is striving hard to put boxing back on the map in New York. He has introduced a measure which will permit ten rounds in a decision bout. He proposes a license of \$5,000 on clubs operating in Greater New York and \$2,500 in the rest of the State. Not more than seven clubs are to operate in New York City, no boxers under 18 years of age are to be permitted to spar and promoters must be residents of the State for at least one year. No intoxicating drinks may be sold at clubs where shows are conducted and gloves weighing at least four ounces must be worn. One commissioner, appointed by the governor, who is to receive a salary of \$5,000 per year, will control the sport.

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# HOOVER WORKS SQUEEZE PLAY ON YANKS

## NEW YORK YANKS ARE AFTER COBB

Big Sensation Caused in  
Baseball by Announcement  
TIGERS MAY AGREE TO DEAL

Hugh Jennings Seeks Star Twirler  
—Rumors Galore Afloat About  
Pending Deals

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—The big sensation in baseball circles right now is the announcement that the New York Yanks will try to secure the famous Ty Cobb from the Detroit Tigers. Manager Miller Huggins of the Yanks says the success of his team depends upon the size of Colonel Ruppert's bank roll.

Detroit is willing to trade, but wants some high class twirlers in exchange for Cobb, and if Ruppert is able to land the twirlers wanted by Detroit, the Tigers may transfer Cobb to the Yanks.

There is a whirl of trades and deals and dickers, despite the recent announcements of economy by some of the owners. Harry Frazee of the Red Sox, Connie Mack of the Athletics, Hughie Jennings of the Tigers and Bobby Quinn of the Browns are all out for players and most of the major leagues are making bids for star players.

Huggins Seeks Many Stars  
Miller Huggins wants Bobby Yeach or Harry Heilmann of the Tigers in case he cannot land Cobb, and if he is unable to get these men he may try to make a raid upon the White Sox.

Red Faber, star twirler for the Sox in the world's series, has been drafted and says he is glad to do his bit. This forces Manager Rowland to go after another star twirler. He has offered to trade Outfielder Joe Jackson or John Collins, but hangs on to Happy Felsch, who is sought by many clubs in the trades.

The New York Giants are short of outfielders. Of the four men in the outfield last year only Benny Kauff has signed his contract. Robertson, Jim Thorpe and George Burns remain unsigned. The three leading Giant twirlers, Schupp, Sallee and Peritt, also remain unsigned. McGraw is particularly anxious to sign up Robertson.

Catcher Henry Is Sold  
All American league clubs have waived on Catcher Henry of the Washington club. Henry was the leader in the Players' Fraternity and led in the salary strike. Despite his marked skill as a backstop, all clubs at last week's meeting of the American league refused to pick him up and he was purchased for practically nothing by the Boston Braves.

Pitcher John Euzman, formerly with Newark, N.J., has been sold to the Cleveland club. The Yanks have sold Pitcher Sam Ross and Infielder Everett to Memphis. Norman Pitt, purchased last fall from the Portland club of the Pacific Coast league, has signed his contract with the Brooklyn club. Pitcher Fred Walker, of the Utica, New York State league, has been sold to the St. Louis Nationals.

Rankin Johnson, formerly with the Red Sox, who refused to sign with the Milwaukee club last year and played in independent ball, has accepted terms with the Brewers.

Ed Barrow Leads Red Sox  
Edward Barrow, for years president of the International league, has succeeded Jack Barry as manager of the Red Sox. Barrow was one of the big leaders in the fight against the Federal league. Until recently the Red Sox looked to be all shot to pieces owing to the enlistment of Manager Jack Barry and other stars, but Owner Frazee has acquired Bush, Schanz, Strunk and McNalls from Connie Mack and has bolstered up the weak spots.

Manager Fred Mitchell of the Cubs is after a crack pitcher to replace Phil Douglas, who is laid up with appendicitis. Branch Rickey of the St. Louis Cardinals proclaims a great find in Bobby Larmore, a high school infielder and all around athlete, whose best assets are said to be batting and base running. He is a big fellow and weighs 170 pounds.

SCHEDULE FAVORS GIANTS  
[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—The New York Giants are greatly favored by the National league's schedule for the season of 1918.

McGraw's team opens the season at home with four games with Brooklyn. Boston then comes for three games, after which the Giants jump over to Brooklyn for four games, and then follows a three game series with the Phillies and Boston.

The Giants then return to the Polo grounds for a series with the Phillies, giving the Giants twenty games in the east before starting on the initial western trip, then being on their home grounds.

The Giants will begin their spring training at Hot Springs on March 3. They will stop on their way north, playing ten exhibition games with the Cleveland Indians.

The New York Yanks will open the American league schedule at Washington and then jump to Boston. The American league opens its eastern schedule on April 15, one day before the National league.

PUT IT UP TO US  
THE STARS AND STRIPES being the official paper of the American Expeditionary Forces in France, it will be the aim of the Sporting Department to make the sporting page the official page for the soldiers over here. We will willingly answer all queries, and we would also like to have contributions from anyone who may have something of interest to write about.

Come on—mail in accounts of your games and any other items of interest. Remember, this is your paper and your page, so hop to it.

CARPENTIER NOT IN  
SHAPE FOR RING GO  
Famous French Champion  
Will Be Unable to Get  
Back Into Trim

According to reports from the States, Jess Willard has offered to meet Georges Carpentier in a big international match for the benefit of the American Red Cross. But a match of this kind appears to be absolutely out of the question. Carpentier, the idol of the French boxing fraternity, appears to be only a shadow of his former self, and it is a question if he will ever be able to regain his oldtime form.

Carpentier has been a member of the Defence of Paris Flying Squadron since the beginning of the war, and according to reports has not been taking care of himself. This, added to the fact that he has been out of the ring almost four years, will raise havoc with any efforts to get back into shape. Carpentier forced some bouts at the National Sporting Club several weeks ago, and he certainly appeared to be in poor trim. He is underweight, due to illness, and at present is at Nice recuperating. Carpentier's friends claim he has been hitting the high spots, as is so common among aviators, and Jess Willard certainly is trying to pick out something soft for himself.

WITH THE MITT WIELDERS  
Terry McGovern, who will be 38 years of age in March, is figuring on a come-back. He says with three months' training he will be able to get into shape. He wants to meet Jimmy Britt in a benefit show for the Red Cross.

Danny Goodman, well-known former light-weight boxer, is an operator in a machine company back in the States. Jess Willard's stepfather, E. L. Stalker, died at Topeka, Kas., recently.

Battling Reddy, of New York, has put in a claim for Johnny Kilbane's featherweight title.

Fred Fulton and Frank Moran are slated for a bout at New Orleans on February 22. This should prove a big card back home. Moran went the previous several years ago, and it is doubtful if he will be able to get back into his old-time form. But he has been training at a military camp for several months and should be in fairly good trim.

Mike O'Dowd and Harry Greb are slated for a bout at St. Paul on Washington's birthday. This will be a no-decision affair.

Puckey McFarland has succeeded Jimmy Dunn as boxing instructor at Camp Zachary Taylor, near Louisville, Ky. Puckey says he likes his new job.

Harry Greb won from Angle Ratner in ten rounds at New Orleans, Greb having the better of it throughout.

Eddie McAndrews and Jack Perry fought a ten-round draw at Pittsburgh. Kid Herman stopped Bobby Burns in three rounds at Peoria, Ill.

Low Tandler was awarded the newspaper verdict over Frankie Callahan in a six-round go at Philadelphia.

Assemblyman Hantler has introduced a boxing bill in the New Jersey legislature. He proposes eight-round bouts with eight-ounce gloves, with 10 per cent. going to the State.

Jack Butler was awarded the decision over Tommy Robson at Providence, R.I. Joe Stecher won over Yusuf Hussane and Wladek Zbyszko threw John Olin in a big double bill at New York.

Joe Lynch, the New York bantam-weight, stopped Kid Williams, former champion, in four rounds at Philadelphia. This was Williams' first knockout.

Charley Weinert was awarded the decision over Tom Cowler in the second round of their bout at Boston. Cowler persisting in hitting low.

CABLE FLASHES  
Boxing bouts at Birmingham, Ala., between representatives of the Blue and Gray divisions, at Camp McClellan, and the Ohio National Guard, at Camp Sheridan, proved interesting. Karpinsky, of Sheridan, got the decision over Kelly, of McClellan, in six rounds. Camp McClellan boxers won three of the five bouts.

Harry Wills, American negro heavyweight, knocked out Sam McVey in five rounds at Panama. Although McVey took the count, he claimed he was fouled, but the referee disallowed his claim.

The Wisconsin Boxing Commission is after fake fighters and has suspended one boxer for taking it too easy.

The Naval Academy won all the laurels in wrestling and gymnastic meet with Pennsylvania, wrestling by a score of 27 to 4 and gymnastics, 40 to 14.

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## ORGANIZED BASEBALL SETTLES WITH FEDS

Millions To Be Paid To the  
Former Outlaw League  
Promoters

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—Organized baseball has settled with the Federal league in the big suit started by the outlaw organization and it will cost the various leagues a tidy sum to pay for the withdrawal of the Feds.

The Wards of Brooklyn, who advanced most of the money when the fight was being waged against the major leagues several years ago, will collect \$10,000 annually for the next twenty years.

Harry Sinclair, owner of the Federal league franchise at Newark, New Jersey, will receive \$10,000 annual rental on his grounds for ten years.

Edward Gwinn, the Pittsburgh magnate, will get \$10,000 annually for five years.

Organized baseball also is obliged to buy back the star players captured in the Federal raids. Benny Kauff, now with the Giants, brings nearly \$40,000, and Lee Magee \$22,000, in addition to fancy prices for some of the other players. It is figured that it will cost organized baseball well up in the millions to include this settlement.

BASEBALL WAR TAX  
RESULTS IN WRANGLE  
Fans Want Extra Pennies  
to be Turned Over to  
War Purposes

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—The new war tax placed upon baseball has already resulted in quite a mixup. The American league has decided that it will be impossible to handle the penalties in change and has set the prices of tickets at round figures.

Twenty-five cent tickets will sell at 30 cents and 75 cent tickets at 85. This gives two cents over the war tax on each ticket and fans are demanding that this extra money be turned over to the Red Cross or some other war purpose.

So far, the league has made no announcement what is to be done with this extra money, leaving the disposition to the individual clubs. Some owners have promised to give the difference to war purposes, while others are silent on the subject.

Experts have figured that just with the New York club there will be a daily gain of \$150 on the 25 cent raise alone.

The National league has taken no action in the matter thus far.

DIAMOND FLASHES  
At Pardee, former Kansas City, Toledo, Wheeling, Pittsburgh and Newark twirler, was killed in a fall downstairs at his home in Columbus, Ohio.

"Pep" Hornsby, the St. Louis Cardinals star slugger, has been placed in Class 3 in the selective draft, and the Mount City fans are happy as a result, as it would make a big hole in their team should "Pep" be lost.

James Breton, former University of Illinois star, and later with the White Sox and Kansas City Blues, has been accepted as a pilot in the aviation camp at Champaign, Ill.

Arthur (Tilly) Shafer, former New York Giant third baseman, who claimed he quit the national pastime because he received too many perfumed notes from

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